



Missouri Professional Development Guidelines

for

Student Success



Developed by a statewide advisory committee
in cooperation with the Missouri Department of
Elementary and Secondary Education
Division of Teacher Quality and Urban Education
Revised 2001



Notes



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Dear Developer:

Few professionals are given the opportunity to design and develop continuous learning communities in schools. Your role as a developer in your district is awesome! By your careful planning and actions, more teachers and children will be learning at higher levels.

With the passage of Senate Bill 380, we collectively acknowledged the importance of on-going professional development for all educators. The 1% funds are the floor of opportunity for you to grow the profession. We estimate that if we collectively pooled all the resources available for professional development that most Missouri teachers would have between \$1,500-\$2,500 per teacher available. Please use this money wisely. Our children are depending on us.

These guidelines are intended for use by professional development chairs, committees, administrators and teachers as they collaboratively plan for the standards-based, job-embedded, content-rich, data-driven professional development for their districts. The last edition of the guidelines were published in 1997. We have grown immensely in our knowledge and practice. The current guidelines deepen and strengthen our impact on student achievement through professional development. Remember professional development is not the ornament of school reform and improvement. It is the engine!

These newly formatted guidelines contain the most recent information about best practices in professional development. I hope your committee will study the video tape, the contents of the guidelines and will attend to the many opportunities provided through the local Regional Professional Development Centers (RPDCs). In addition, we now have many electronic tools available to support your effort. For example, *PD101* is an online course (www.morpd.org) for persons interested in understanding how to be more effective developers. Also, don't forget the Missouri Staff Development Council (MSDC) with its 800+ members and their annual spring conference.

Finally, we want to thank the design team that put these guidelines together. The many people and organizations who worked on this effort model not only our best practices, but the collaboration necessary to move our culture ahead. As we look back over the progress of our collective work in forming learning organizations in our schools, you should be proud of the many accomplishments we have achieved. Please join our state in ensuring high levels of learning in all schools through the focused efforts of all developers.

Sincerely,

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